

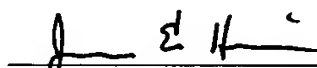
## REMARKS

This application is a continuation of prior U.S. Serial No. 09/406,249, filed September 27, 1999. New claims 27-52 are active in the application. No new matter has been added to the application.

Accordingly, applicants request that the amendment be entered and the application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

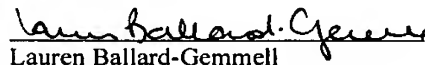
MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.



James E. Harris  
Reg. No. 40,013

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.  
1030 SW Morrison Street  
Portland, OR 97205  
(503) 222-3613  
Customer No. 20575

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Lauren Ballard-Gemmell